



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

April 17, 2007

Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors

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First District

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Second District

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Third District

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Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT FOR VOCATIONAL NURSING EDUCATIONAL
SERVICES SPONSORED BY THE HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
(All Districts) (3 Votes)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Bruce A. Chernof, MD
Director and Chief Medical Officer

John R. Cochran III
Chief Deputy Director

Robert G. Splawn, MD
Senior Medical Director

Delegate authority to the Director of Health Services (hereafter Director), or his designee, to sign an Agreement, substantially similar to Exhibit I, with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to provide Vocational Nursing Educational Services (VNES), effective upon Board approval through December 31, 2008, dependent upon availability of future funds, at a maximum obligation of \$166,000, and delegate authority to authorize the Director to terminate the Agreement for convenience in whole or in part, as needed.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The Department of Health Services (DHS) is recommending approval of the Agreement with LAUSD to provide VNES for DHS employees, in order to meet the County's current and ongoing need to fill current Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) vacancies.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The total maximum obligation for the term of this Agreement is \$166,000. Funding is included in the Health Services Administration Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07 Final Budget and has been requested in the FY 2007-08 Proposed Budget request. Funding will be requested in future years as appropriate.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

The Health Care Workforce Development Program (HCWDP), a joint labor-management training program for DHS employees, is supported by State and County funds. The goals of HCWDP training programs are to support the restructuring needs of DHS and address critical staffing shortages. HCWDP training programs aim to improve both the personal and technical competencies of the DHS workforce in order to improve health care access and the quality of patient care.

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through leadership,
service and education.*



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The proposed Agreement is effective upon Board approval through December 31, 2008. To remain responsive to the training needs of the DHS workforce, the Director has delegated authority to terminate the Agreement for convenience either in whole or in part.

LAUSD will provide part-time VNES classes exclusively for enrollment of a maximum of 22 DHS employees. The program consists of four levels and is approximately 18 months in duration. Instruction will begin on April 30, 2007.

Individuals successfully completing the LAUSD VNES program will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Vocational Nurses (NCLEX).

As this program is exclusively dedicated to DHS employees, the proposed Agreement provides start-up costs and LAUSD may invoice the County for a portion of these costs allowable under the Agreement, upon approval by the Board. All other services will be reimbursed monthly in arrears.

Attachment A provides additional information.

County Counsel has approved Exhibit I as to form.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

LAUSD was selected as a result of a Letter of Interest solicitation conducted in late 2003. LAUSD was the only one of six responding programs that met all the DHS requirements. LAUSD was awarded a contract in the amount of \$299,000 for the term of March 15, 2004 through June 30, 2005. The contract was executed under delegated authority previously approved by your Board.

As DHS continues to define and strengthen areas of operations to meet survey requirements of The Joint Commission and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, DHS has identified an immediate critical need to train LVNs to fill current staffing shortages. HCWDP has sought education providers that would meet training parameters set to maximize DHS employees' ability to succeed in a VNES program and then promote to LVN positions in DHS.

To this end, LAUSD is one of only two California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians accredited nursing education programs which fully meets DHS' needs: a) provides fully accredited VNES programs with current published pass rates that exceed 90% per National Council Licensure Examination for Vocational Nurses for years 2004 and 2005, b) offers a part-time VNES program which allows a greater number of full-time DHS employees to enroll, and c) does not require college level course prerequisites which also enables more DHS employees the opportunity to enroll.

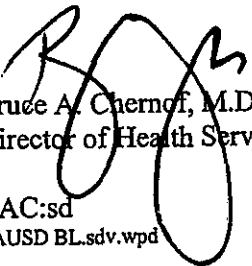
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

LAUSD will provide a VNES program to help fill the County's current nursing vacancies.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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When approved, this Department requires three signed copies of the Board's action.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce A. Chernof, M.D.
Director of Health Services

BAC:sd
LAUSD BL.sdv.wpd

Attachments (2)

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

SUMMARY OF AGREEMENT

1. **TYPE OF SERVICE:**

Vocational Nursing Educational Services (VNES) for Department of Health Services staff seeking Licensed Vocational Nurse careers.

2. **CONTRACTOR/ADDRESS AND CONTACT PERSON**

Isabel Vasquez, Contract Manager
Los Angeles Unified School District
Division of Adult and Career Education
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 18th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Telephone (213) 241-3821

3. **TERM:**

Upon Board approval through December 31, 2008.

4. **FINANCING INFORMATION:**

The total maximum obligation for the term of this Agreement is \$166,000. Funding is included in the Health Services Administration Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07 Final Budget and has been requested in the FY 2007-08 Proposed Budget request. Funding will be requested in future years as appropriate.

5. **ACCOUNTABILITY FOR MONITORING:**

Director of Nursing Affairs: Vivian Branchick

Health Care Workforce Development Program: Diane Factor, Director

Contracts and Grants Division: Cara O'Neill, Chief

County Counsel (approval as to form): Allison Morse, Deputy County Counsel